The Wobbly Oscillator

Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Association

February 2026 Volume 56 Number 2

Hams Who Serve

Meeting February 10th

Busch Funeral Home Community Room

Mentor Session: Coax and Tuners

From the Prez

Toby, WT8O

Time For a Change

I have held the CARS gavel since 2008. Sometimes I feel like I have overstayed my welcome, but this club has meant a great deal to me. Since I joined CARS in 2002 I've only missed one meeting and a handful of nets. The reward has been friends – *true lifelong friends.*

Now it's time to turn the old horse out to pasture and let a new driver manage the reins. CARS is extremely fortunate to have a member like John Dernar, NU8Y, willing and able to take over the leadership of the club. John and I have become extremely close over the last couple of years. His excitement and enthusiasm for the hobby in general, and CARS in particular is phenomenal. Hardly a day, and never a week, pass without John sharing a new idea of how to make the club better and more enjoyable to our members. I would be tremendously selfish to continue plodding along as president only wanting to reap the fame and high pay the office provides.

So, my fellow CARS members, consider yourselves blessed to have John take over the club, and knowing you all as I do, I'm positive you will give him the support given me these last 18 years.

Outstanding CARS Member – Joe, KD8BAL

With immense pride and pleasure, I would like to recognize Joe Ulaszewski, KD8BAL, for his unselfish contributions to CARS over the years by being the first club member I would like to feature in a series of articles as I wind down my presidency.

I cannot think of a CARS activity Joe doesn't participate in. Monthly meetings, weekly nets, the annual picnic, the holiday party, Field Day, and the Dayton Hamvention bus trip will always find Joe in attendance.

Beyond participating, Joe accepts responsibility for arranging our meeting programs; a task many take for granted not realizing the effort and stress involved. Often he attempts to contact people on suggestions from members as prospective presenters only to have them ignore his messages, require a fee, or not be available at the meeting time or location. Somehow Joe manages to pull a rabbit out of his hat and schedules an interesting program for every meeting.

Joe is the "go to" guy when help is needed. Andy, KD8SCV, can depend on Joe to take over the 50/50 raffle when he is unavailable. As president, I have always been able to count on Joe for assistance. When we needed a Board member to fill the vacancy left by John, NU8Y, I didn't hesitate to ask Joe if he could step in; and he did not hesitate to accept.

More than his help and participation as a CARS member, Joe is one of the most likeable chaps I have ever met. He is always a pleasure to talk to and be around. The Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society is indeed privileged to have Joe, KD8BAL, as one of our most active and well liked members.

2026 Licensing Classes

CARS will offer amateur radio licensing classes beginning Thursday, February 26th at 6:30 P.M. with registration and orientation. The classes will be held in the Community Room in the Seven Hills City Hall, located at 7325 Summit View Drive in Seven Hills, 44131. All participants should use the entrance on the South side of the building. Classes will be held every Thursday with a VE examination on Thursday, April 9th.

There will be Technician, General, and Amateur Extra classes offered. The fee for each class will be $20.00, and all study materials will be provided. CARS members will be offered the General class for FREE. All students passing the Technician class will be given a FREE CARS membership for 2026.

Thanks again to our dedicated and experienced staff consisting of David, KD8ACO; Dudley, WA1X; Joel, K8SHB, and Toby, WT8O, who will be organizing and instructing the classes.

Please contact Toby, WT8O, at wt8o@att.net or 440-525-6109 to register.

Minutes of CARS Board Meeting

MEETING - First Board Meeting of 2026

LOCATION - The meeting was held on January 15th, 2026, at the Clubhouse Restaurant, Pearl Rd., Parma Hts., Ohio

ATTENDEES - Toby Kolman, WT8O; Matt Neely, NU8H; Mark Moro, WJ8WM; John Dernar, NU8Y; Joe Ulaszewski KD8BAL.

CALLED TO ORDER - President Toby Kolman, WT8O, called the meeting to order at 7:20 PM.

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND ALTERNATE CHAIRMAN - Toby, WT8O, raised a motion to elect a Board Chairman and Alternate Chairman.

Toby, WT8O, nominated Mark, WJ8WM, as the Board Chairman and Mark, KC8ESG, as Alternate Chairman. Joe, KD8BAL, seconded this nomination. A vote was taken. To get a quorum, Toby, WT8O, texted Mark Rosewicz, KC8ESG, who cast his vote remotely. The motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS - Mark, WJ8WM, led a discussion on the following:

Setting the Board meeting dates for 2026. The group agreed upon April 23rd and November 19th. Additional meetings can be called if needed.

Toby, WT8O, discussed Field Day. He will not be the chairman this year, but will help and support, so we need to find another person to chair this event. We also need to come up with food options. The board agreed that this is a good topic to discuss at the next club meeting. Toby will also add this to his upcoming *WO* article.

Toby, WT8O, discussed the idea of redoing the committee members to get more support and spread out the work. This is another topic that will be discussed at a future club meeting.

OLD BUSINESS - Mark, WJ8WM, led a discussion on the following:

No old business was discussed.

ADJOURNMENT - Mark WJ8WM, WT8O, adjourned the meeting at 8:10 PM.

Submitted by Matt Neely, NU8H, CARS Secretary

Toby, W%8O presents Rookie of the Year award to Kyle Magilavy, KF8DXR

Bob, KC8MRC was recognized for participating in all 52 nets in the past year

BAOFENG selected as the Official Radio of ICE

FICTION

It was just announced that the new *BAOFENG* Super UV5 will become the standard issue radio for ICE. In a recent press release, the director of US operations for *BAOFENG* said that their new facility in Swainsboro, GA, will manufacture a radio that will be issued to all ICE agents nationwide. “The new handheld radio will be capable of outputting a clean 100 watts on all bands across the entire radio spectrum,” said director Mr. Ching Aling.

Ok, obviously this is fake news. I am just trying to illustrate the point that so much of what you might see and read on the internet is pure fabrication - fake news. Therefore, you should question everything on the internet. Don’t trust what you read or see.

Can you imagine a future where you never know who or what to believe? You might wake up some morning and find that your bank account is empty. You go to the bank, and they show you a video of you, withdrawing all of your money and walking out of the building. What do you do? Who do you call? What recourse will you have?

So, if you want the truth, information that you can trust, join us at our February 10th CARS meeting. There will be an informative presentation on COAXIAL cable. Selecting and installing the correct cable is one of the most important decisions a ham radio operator can make. No fake news here, only verified information will be presented.

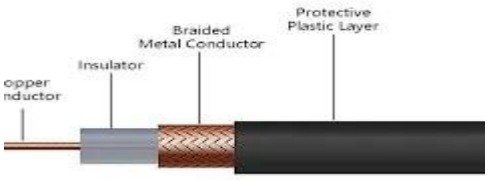
John NU8Y

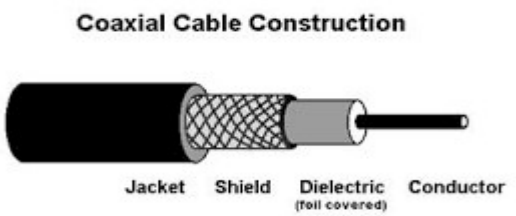
FACT

COAXIAL Cable/Tuner presentation

February 10th CARS Radio monthly meeting

Tuesday at 7 pm





NOTE MEETING TIME

Next CARS Meeting

Tuesday, February 10th - 7:00 PM

Busch Community Room 7501 Ridge Rd. - Parma

Tuners and Coax

David, AC8TN, and Metro, W8MET

This presentation is part of the mentoring program developed by CARS to provide information for new hams setting up their station and getting started in the hobby and for experienced hams to update their skills and to share their knowledge and experience with others. Anyone whishing to share ideas for future topics is encouraged to contact the program chair directly. (See the CARS Meeting Minutes for information on current and planned programs.)

See Website for Details - www.2cars.org

Dues Notice

Matt, KE8OZV

Your 2026 CARS dues are payable on or before January 31, 2026.
If you have already paid THANK YOU.

Dues can be paid in two ways:

- You can mail a check to:
  CARS
  PO Box 31264
  Independence, OH 44131-0264
- Pay in person at any CARS meeting.

Dues are $26.00 per year for regular membership. Each additional family member is $16.00.
If you are 60 yrs. or older, your dues are only $18.00 per year.

CARS will offer assistance to anyone having a hardship.

Please let me know if you have a hardship or know a member who needs help.

Meeting Minutes – January Meeting

LOCATION - The meeting was held on January 13th at the Busch Funeral Home, located on Ridge Road in Parma, Ohio.

CALLED TO ORDER - President Toby Kolman, WT8O, called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - Those present pledged allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

INTRODUCTIONS - Those present introduced themselves. The meeting had 21 attendees.

MEETING MINUTES - The November minutes, as published in the December issue of the *Wobbly Oscillator* (*WO*), were approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT - Matt Perlman, KE8OZU, gave an update on the club's finances. No issues were reported. Audit is scheduled to start next month.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT - Toby Kolman, WT8O, reported the following:
Welcome guests
Parking at Busch
Kyle Magilavy, KF8DXR, won the "Rookie of the Year" award.

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT - John Dernar, NU8Y, reported the following:
Winter Field Day is January 24th through January 25th. CARS is not doing an event, but Parma Radio Club is doing a Winter Field Day Event at Cross of Hope Church in Parma Heights, which is open to all amateur radio operators. You can also activate from your home.

SECRETARY REPORT - Matt Neely, NU8H, reminded folks to sign in on the sign-in sheet.

PUBLIC SERVICE - Chuck, K8CVM, shared that all CARS members are invited to the local ESG/ARES meetings. The meetings are held on the third Tuesday at 7:00 PM each month, typically at the Helwig Whistle Stop. Visit https://n8esg.org/ for details. Chuck also shared details on a special 2026 Worked All States (WAS) Award for the 250-year anniversary of the United States.

VE UPDATE: Metro, W8MET, shared an update from the last VE session. Five applicants showed up. Three poeple earned their Technician, and two people got their General. One of the people who got their General sat for both the Technician and General during the same session.

PROGRAM COMMITTEE - Joe, KD8BAL, reported that:
Tonight there is no program; instead, we'll have a workshop on ironing CARS patches onto clothing.
Next Month's program features Metro and David discussing coax and antenna tuners.
If you have program ideas for March, please let Joe know.

TECH COMMITTEE - Scott, AC8NW, reported they are troubleshooting issues with EchoLink and AllStar.

OLD BUSINESS - Toby, WT8O, led a discussion on the following:
Reminded people that the meeting start time changed to 7:00 PM and the net start time is now 8:00 PM
The next mentoring session is in February and will cover tuners and coax
We are still working on options for CARS clothing
The club has used equipment for sale. We are still working on listing them on eBay. Will also work on getting them added to the *WO*.

NEW BUSINESS - Toby, WT8O, led a discussion on the following:
The club is offering licensing classes again this year. The exact start date will be announced. We are planning to offer classes for the Technician, General, and Extra tests.

Ideas for recruiting new hams to the hobby were discussed. Matt, NU8H, has a presentation he can give to non-ham groups to help get them interested in the hobby. Contact Matt if you have a group that would like to see this presentation.
Discussed CARS potentially manning the local ARES trailer at the Cuyahoga County Fair to help promote CARS and amateur radio.
Hamvention Bus - Planning on doing this again this year. More details to follow. Eddie, KD8FTS, will be running this again this year.
Field Day will be at the same location as last year, James Day Park in Parma, right by Tri-C.
Discussed pictures on the website roster
Discussed a dinner meeting in the spring.

REFRESHMENT - Thank you to John, NU8Y; Mark Rosewicz, KC8ESG; Matt, NU8H

NEXT MEETING - The Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society's next meeting will be held on February 10th at the Busch Funeral Home, located on Ridge Road in Parma, Ohio.

ADJOURNMENT - Toby, WT8O, adjourned the meeting.

50/50 Drawing - Chuck, KF8DXR, won the 50/50 drawing.

Submitted by Matt Neely NU8H

Chuck, KF8DXR won the 50/50 drawing

2026 Licensing Classes

CARS will offer amateur radio licensing classes beginning Thursday, February 26th at 6:30 P.M. with registration and orientation. The classes will be held in the Community Room in the Seven Hills City Hall, located at 7325 Summit View Drive in Seven Hills, 44131. All participants should use the entrance on the South side of the building. Classes will be held every Thursday with a VE examination on Thursday, April 9th.

There will be Technician, General, and Amateur Extra classes offered. The fee for each class will be $20.00, and all study materials will be provided. CARS members will be offered the General class for FREE. All students passing the Technician class will be given a FREE CARS membership for 2026.

Thanks again to our dedicated and experienced staff consisting of David, KD8ACO; Dudley, WA1X; Joel, K8SHB, and Toby, WT8O, who will be organizing and instructing the classes.

Please contact Toby, WT8O, at wt8o@att.net or 440-525-6109 to register.

February Birthdays

David Paoletta, KE8DWJ	FEB 1
Mike Balach, KB8UGT	FEB 2
Frank Richey, KN4AW,	FEB 5
Diane Balach, KD8FTV	FEB 7
Gary Solomon, N8JNO	FEB 15
Matt Neely, NU8H	FEB 17
Dr. Linas Vaitkus, KE8KOJ	FEB 17
Dudley Chapman, WA1X	FEB 20
David Noeth, KD8ACO	FEB 22
Logan Liptak, KF8AZW	FEB 22

For Sale

CARS member Mike Cegelski, K8EHP is offering for sale an Icom IC-7300 HF transceiver.

Mike can be reached at dmichaelcegelski@gmail.com or at his wife Mary's phone number 216 536 2864.

Specifications for the radio are readily available at the ICOM site. CARS VP John, NU8Y wrote a short comparison of the IC 7300 and the new IC 7300 MK2 which highlights the popularity and some of the features of the IC 7300.

February

Net Sked

NOTE NEW START TIME

Feb 4 WT8O

Feb 11 KD8ACO

Feb 18 AC8NW

Feb 25 KC8ESG

Nets are run every Wednesday at

8:00 PM on:

146.820 (PL 110.9)

443.825(+) PL Tone 131.8

Digital Yaesu Fusion / C4FM

Linked to the 146.82 Repeater

EchoLink Node 343470 (K8ZFR-R)

Allstar Node 47067

WIRES X Node 91242-Room 01242

NOTE: Practice nets are conducted weekly on the CARS repeater. All hams are welcome to participate in the net.

The weekly nets are a good opportunity to hone your skills and meet other hams.

Net control will open the net and ask for "check-ins." You can give your callsign, name, and location and simply listen to the rest of the net, or you can join the conversation.

As you become more comfortable, you may want to try acthing as net control.

Hams Who Serve

Amateur Radio Licensing Classes

2026 Classes Begin February 26th

Presented by the Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society

The Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society (CARS) will offer amateur radio licensing classes beginning Thursday, February 26th at 6:30 P.M. with registration and orientation.

Classes will be held in the Community Room in the Seven Hills City Hall, located at:

7325 Summit View Drive

Seven Hills, OH 44131.

(All participants should use the entrance on the South side of the building.)

Classes will be held every Thursday. The final meeting will be the VE licensing examination on Thursday, April 9th.

Earn your FCC amateur radio license today!

Upgrade your existing FCC amateur radio license

Classes are available for each FCC licensing class:

Technician,
General
Amateur Extra

The fee for each class will be $20.00, which covers all study materials. CARS members will be offered the General class for FREE.

All students passing the Technician class will be given a FREE CARS membership for 2026.

Thanks again to our dedicated and experienced staff consisting of David, KD8ACO; Dudley, WA1X; Joel, K8SHB, and Toby, WT8O, who will be organizing and instructing the classes.

Earn your Technician Class license and enjoy VHF/UHF, digital and limited HF privileges.

To register, please contact

Toby, WT8O

wt8o@att.net

440-525-6109

Upgrade your license and take advantage of more of what amateur radio offers.

BECOME A HAM RADIO OPERATOR

LICENSING CLASSES START SOON

CARS - Cuyahoga County Amateur Radio Society

January 11th 2026 Session

Team Lead: W8MET

New Amateurs 3 Technician 1 General 0 Extra 4 Total

Upgrading Amateurs 0 Technician 1 General 0 Extra 1 Total

Elements Passed 4 Technician 2 General 0 Extra 6 Total

Elements Failed 0 Technician 0 General 0 Extra 0 Total

Total Number of Applicants Tested: 5

Total Number of Applicants Who Passed: 5

Total Number of Applicants Who Failed: 0

Volunteer Examiners

AC8TN David Eliot Korow

K8KR George P Pindroh

N8LRS Linda Rose Sinko

N8TCP Roger A Boehnlein

N8UZF Simpson A Huston

NU8H Matt B Neely

W8MET Metro Sinko

March VE Session

The next VE testing session will be held **Sunday, March, 8th,** at 9:15 AM

Testing is at the Old Elmwood Recreation Center, 6200 Pete Wisniesky Parkway, Independence 44131. Directions and a map are on the CARS website homepage. For information or an appointment please contact Metro, W8MET, at 216-520-1320 or metro351@sbcglobal.net

As always, walk-ins are welcome.

No matter what your license class is, or how much time you have available to volunteer, your service would be welcome in a number of ways this year! Just be sure to ask any CARS officer or active public service member in our scheduled Monthly Club meetings for current volunteer information.

January VE Exam Results

Technician:

Jared A Doll
Earl G Lawrence
Paul J Tandy
Jennifer Norton , KF8FOM

General:

Jennifer Norton, KF8FOM

Lawrence P Herman, KF8FMK

Honorary Members

Any person who by nature of outstanding or meritorious contribution to the furtherance of amateur radio and the ideals of the Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society

Robert Check, W8GC
Elected 2/10/15

Thomas Wayne, WB8N
Elected 1/10/17

Dwaine Modock, K8ME/SK
Elected 5/9/17

Toby Kolman, WT8O
Elected 10/10/17

Jerry Smith, NW9H
Elected 5/8/18

Ron Borkey, K8VJG/SK
Elected 5/14/19

Ed Stevens, WB8ROK/SK
Elected 8/10/21

Vince Bak, N8OVW/SK
Elected 11/14/23

Ron Holas, K8RJH, SK
Elected 7/8/25

CARS Repeaters

146.820 (-) PL Tone 110.9

Analog Repeater

Main Site – Brecksville

Receive Only Site – Brunswick

Receive Only Site – Shaker Hts.

AllStar Node 47067

EchoLink Node 343470 (K8ZFR-R)

WIRES X Node 91242 Room 01242

****

443.825 (+) PL Tone 131.8

Digital Yaesu Fusion

Linked to 146.820 Repeater

Brecksville

****

444.75 (+) PL Tone 131.8

Analog Repeater

Not Linked to Other Repeaters

Shaker Hts.

2026 Officers

President

Toby Kolman, WT8O

440-525-6109

wt8o@att.net

Vice-President

John Dernar, NU8Y

440-666-8045

dern123@sbcglobal.net

Secretary

Matt Neely, NU8H

216-965-4476

matt@matthewneely.com

Alternate Secretary:

Al Farley, KF8BCC

afarley94@yahoo.com

Treasurer

Matt Perlman, KE8OZU

216-337-1540

matt@seagem.me

2026 CARS Committees, Officers, Board and Trustees

CARS 2025 Committees

50/50

Chair: Andy Evridge, KD8SCV

Member: Joe Ulazewski, KD8BAL

ARRL Liaison

Chair: John Dernar, NU8Y

Audio/Video

Chair: Scott Smith, AC8NW

Audit

Chair: John Dernar, NU8Y

Members: Eddie Stevens, KD8FTS and Toby Kolman, WT8O

Awards

Co-Chairs: Toby Kolman, WT8O and Mark Moro, WJ8WM

Field Day

Co-Chairs: Chair: Toby Kolman, WT8O, Assistant Chair: Bob Robbins, K8RGI Members: David Korow, AC8TN; Andy Evridge, KD8SCV; Chuck Mehozonek, K8CVM, and Mark Moro, WJ8WM

Hamvention Bus

Chair: Eddie Stevens, KD8FTS

Historian

Chair: Toby Kolman, WT8O

Holiday Party, Summer Picnic

Chair: Al Farley, KF8BCC

Member: Mark Moro, WJ8WM

License Classes

Chair: David Noeth, KD8ACO

Members: Joel Chaney, K8SHB,; Toby Kolman, WT8O

Media Representative

Chair: Andy Evridge, KD8SCV

Membership

Chair: Toby Kolman, WT8O

Member: Matt Perlman, KE8OZU

Net

Chair: Toby Kolman, WT8O

Members: Scott Smith, AC8NW, David Korow, AC8TN, David Noeth, KD8ACO, Mark Rose-wicz, KC8ESG; and Al Farley, KF8BCC

Newsletter

Chair: Perry Trunick, KB8AYQ

Member: Yuri Sivitski, W4YSW

Programs at Meetings

Chair: Joe Ulaszewski, KD8BAL

Members: Eddie Stevens, KD8FTS and Matt Perlman, KE8OZU

Public Service

Chair: Eddie Stevens, KD8FTS

Members: Chuck Mehozonek, K8CVM, and Arp Viiberg, K8ARP

QSL Manager

Chair: Metro Sinko, W8MET

Quartermaster

Chair: Toby Kolman, WT8O

Records Custodian

Chair: Terry Pillatt, KB8DTC

Refreshments - Coffee

Chair: John Dernar, NU8Y

Refreshments - Donuts

Chair: Matt Neely, NU8H

Refreshments - Pop

Chair: Mark Rosewicz, KC8ESG

Scholarship

Chair: Toby Kolman, WT8O

Members: Bob Robbins, K8RGI, Matt Perlman, KE8OZU, and Mark Moro, WJ8WM

Sunshine (Welfare)

Chair: Andy Evridge, KD8SCV

Technical

Chair: Scott Smith, AC8NW

Members: Mark Scoville, AD8KE, Terry Pillatt, KB8DTC, Mark Rosewicz, KC8ESG, David Noeth, KD8ACO and Mark Moro, WJ8WM

VE Exams

Chair: Metro Sinko, W8MET

Members: George Pindroh, K8KR; Fred Freer, K8IG: David Korow, AC8TN, Simpson Huston, N8UZF, Matt Neely, NU8H

Webmaster/email

Chair: Matt Perlman, KE8OZU

Programs at Meetings

Chair: Joe Ulaszewski, KD8BAL

Members: Eddie Stevens, KD8FTS and Matt Perlman, KE8OZU

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Webmaster/email

Chair: Matt Perlman, KE8OZU

CARS 2026 Executive Board

Board Chair

Mark Moro, WJ8WM

216-496-2871

Alternate: Mark Rosewicz, KC8ESG

Even Year Board Members

Scott Smith, AC8NW, Joe Ulaszewski, KD8BAL and Mark Moro, WJ8WM

Odd Year Board Members

Eddie Stevens, KD8FTS; Mark Rosewicz, KC8ESG, and Al Farley, KF8BCC

CARS License Trustees

K8ZFR Trustee

Toby Kolman, WT8O

W8BM Trustee

Mark Moro, WJ8WM

W8HBI Trustee

Matt Perlman, KE8OZU

The *Wobbly Oscillator* is a publication of the Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society. Articles from this publication may be reprinted in any ham radio publication, if credit is given to this publication and the author, if known.

All submissions should be emailed to: Perry A Trunick, KB8AYQ at perry@trunick.com